THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) For the protection and development of Tamil minorities in Delhi and other northern States, no special policy has been formulated.

Metering of feeders, distribution transformers and consumer connections

*110. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) envisaged 100 per cent metering of feeders, distribution transformers (DTs) and consumer connections;

(b) if so, the details of the progress made thereon; and

(c) the measures taken to complete 100 per cent feeder, DT and consumer metering in all the ongoing and completed APDRP projects, within a clearly defined time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) envisaged 100 per cent metering of 11 KV feeders. In addition, a few Distribution Transformer (DT) metering and consumer metering projects have also been sanctioned under the APDRP. As reported, 98% feeder metering has been achieved at national level. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal have reported 100% feeder metering. All APDRP projects including metering projects are to be completed within 18 to 36 months from the date of sanction of the project.

Power generation cost of NTPC

†*111. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

With the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cost of power generation by the National Thermal Power Corporation is higher than that of other private sector companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the bids of private sector companies for Sasan Ultra Mega Power Project was lower, as compared to the bid of the National Thermal Power Corporation; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. It is not true to say that the cost of generation of NTPC power stations is higher than the private sector power plants. The cost of generation of electricity depends

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.